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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Vincent et al

Ser. No. 09/617,637

Filed: July 17, 2000

For: Efficient Use of Domain Socket Pairs

In Communication For Tightly Coupled

Transactions

March 8, 2004

IBM Corporation

Dept.T81/Bldg. 503

P.O. Box 12195

Customer Number: 25259

Res. Tri. Park, NC 27709

Art Unit: 2142

Examiner: Tam T Phan

OFFICIAL #5/a.

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on November 6, 2003, the following remarks are respectfully submitted.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.